GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3765
ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017
Unqualified Medical Practitioners
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of quack unqualified medical practitioners are operating in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of deaths caused on account of unqualified medical practitioners in the country;

(d) the steps taken by the Government to crackdown on such quack/unqualified medical practitioners; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to improve awareness of people in this regard and ensure affordability and accessibility of qualified doctors?

Answer

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE)
(a) to (e): No data on quacks is maintained centrally. Section 15 of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 prohibits a person other than medical practitioner enrolled on a State Medical Register to practice medicine in the State. Any person who acts in contravention is liable to be punished with imprisonment and / or fine. 'Health' being a State subject, the primary responsibility to deal with such cases lies with the respective State Governments in order to take stringent action and corrective steps against quacks and also evolve suitable policies to ensure availability of health workforce in rural areas. To increase the availability of doctors in the country, the Central Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme to establish Medical Colleges in underserved areas of the country and to increase UG/PG seats in existing Government Medical Colleges. The norms of Medical Colleges have been rationalized to facilitate the setting up of new colleges. It has been allowed to utilize government hospital to set up Medical College by a private party under PPP mode. Common entrance examination and common counseling has been made mandatory to improve the quality of medical education.
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